

REMARKS

Claims 4-9, 11-25, 27, 30 and 32 are now pending in the present application. By this reply, claims 26, 28, 29 and 31 have been cancelled and new claim 32 has been added.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner's indication that claims 8, 9, 11-23 and 30 remain allowed over the prior art of record is acknowledged.

In view of the allowable subject matter, independent claim 24 has been amended to incorporate therein allowable claim 28 and intervening claim 26. Accordingly, independent claim 24 and all of its dependent claims 4-9, 11-16, 25 and 27 are in condition for allowance. Further, allowable claim 8 has been rewritten in independent form and is presented herein as new independent claim 32. Thus, claim 32 should be indicated as allowed.

In view that claims 5-7 were not rejected at all over the prior art of record, claims 5-7 are treated as being allowable.

Rejection Under 35 USC §102(e)

Claims 4, 24-27, 29 and 31 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Donovan. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Without acquiescing to any of the Examiner's allegations made in the Office Action to reject the claims, to expedite prosecution, independent claim 24 has been amended to include the features of allowable claim 28 and its intervening claim 26, thereby automatically placing independent claim 24 and its dependent claims into condition for allowance.

Accordingly, the rejection is moot and must be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons and in view of the above clarifying amendments, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw all of the objections and rejections of record, and an early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Should there be any matters which need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Esther H. Chong (Registration No. 40,953) at the telephone number of the undersigned below.


If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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By 

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